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CONTROL OF POCKET GOPHERS
BEST ON COMMUNITY BASIS

Effective control of pocket gophers requires persistent and coordinated effort by the community, says W. E. Crouch of the Bureau of Biological Survey in Farmers' Bulletin 1709-F, recently issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Careful attention, he explains, must be given to all infested lands--farmed, vacant, and public--in order to avoid reinfestation of cleared areas.

Pocket gophers occur throughout the greater part of every State west of the Mississippi River and eastward over most of Illinois, southern Wisconsin, northwestern Indiana, and also in large areas in Alabama, Georgia, and Florida. In places where their feeding and burrowing habits have no ill effects these rodents, says the bulletin, should not be molested, as they are interesting members of the native fauna. In cultivated fields, grazing ranges, forest plantations, orchards, parks, airports, and elsewhere, however, their burrowing activities make them highly objectionable.

The bulletin discusses poisoning, trapping, and other methods of destroying these rodents and gives suggestions for organizing community efforts. Copies of this publication, Farmers' Bulletin 1709-F, entitled "Pocket-Gopher Control," may be obtained at 5 cents each from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

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